INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Survey Number:D -97

Property/District Name: Laurel Hill

Project: <u>Dorchester County Power Plant</u>	Agency: <u>Delmarva</u>
Site visit by MHT Staff: X no yes Name	Date
Eligibility recommended Eligibilit	y not recommended <u>X</u>
Criteria:ABCD Considerations	s:ABCD _EFGNone
Justification for decision: (Use continuation	sheet if necessary and attach map)
The property known as Laurel Hill is a 366-acre built in two separate phases, and several representative of the 19th-century farm complete the criteria for individual listing in the Nat	associated outbuildings. The property is xes found in rural Maryland and does not meet
The property was originally part of a larger 1856, the extensive property was divided into responsible for dividing Fleming's estate. The that time was described as containing 383 acres	six smaller tracts by the Land Commissioners e Laurel Hill Farm sits on Tract 4, which at
The farmhouse consists of two principal parts. d-19th century is a 1-1/2-story, two-bay frame on or hall-parlor plan. The house is clad wisteep gable roof with a central dormer, a box c sash. According to information presented in twinder stair, and detals typical of the Greek 19th century, the modest house was enlarged by house built against its end wall. The two sects siding and a central entry.	e structure which originally had either a one- th weatherboard siding and is covered with a ornice and end chimney. The windows have 6/6 the MHT form, the interior features a corner Revival period. In the final quarter of the the addition of a two-story, three-bay frame
A group of outbuildings is located northeast of grain production. These include a contemporary structure with an open and attached equipment shor the storage of farm vehicles and granary equipment to the northeast of this cluster was not access fabricated house is located several hundred fermitted.	y corrugated metal shed, a front gable frame ned, a group of five silos, and two open sheds ipment. A low-lying, deteriorating structure ible due to heavy overgrowth. A small, pre-
Although the Laurel Hill house survives as a go one-room or hall-parlor house from the mid-19t century farmhouse, the building lacks the archit listing in the National Register. Further, th typical of Dorchester County and rural Marylan	th century to a more substantial, late 19th- ectural distincition necessary to qualify for e evolution of the farmhouse follows a trend
Documentation on the property/district is presen	nted in: Review and Compliance Files
Preparedby:MAARAssociates	
Beth Hannold and Kim Williams	1/25/96
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Service	s Date
nd program concurrence: yes no	not applicable Feb. 12, 1996
Reviewer, NR program	Date
	'n $'$

Survey	No.	D -97

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

I.	Geographic Region:	
<u>X</u>	Eastern Shore Western Shore	<pre>(all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil) (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)</pre>
	Piedmont	(Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
	Western Maryland	(Allegany, Garrett and Washington)
II.	Chronological/Developmental Pe	riods:
<u>X</u>	Middle Archaic Late Archaic Early Woodland Middle Woodland Late Woodland/Archaic Contact and Settlement Rural Agrarian Intensification	tion A.D. 1815-1870 A.D. 1870-1930 A.D. 1930-Present
III.	Prehistoric Period Themes:	IV. Historic Period Themes:
	Subsistence Settlement Political Demographic Religion Technology Environmental Adaptation	Agriculture X Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning Economic (Commercial and Industrial) Government/Law Military Religion Social/Educational/Cultural Transportation
v. R	Resource Type:	
	Category: <u>Building</u>	
	Historic Environment: <u>Rural</u>	
	Historic Function(s) and Use(s): <u>Domestic/Single Dwelling</u>
	Known Design Source:	
	Tatomit Debigit Doutee.	

Maryland Historical Trust HISTORIC PROPERTIES State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Sur ve	еу ио.	D-97	UPDATE
Magi	No.		
DOE	yes	no	

1. Nan	1 e (indicate	preferred name)		
historic	Laurel Hill			
and/or common	<u></u>			
2. Loca	ation			
street & number	r 4538 Ocean	Highway		not for publication
city, town	Vienna	_X vicinity of	congressional district	
state	Maryland	county	Dorchester	
3. Clas	sification			
Category district _X_ building(s) structure site object	Ownership public both Public Acquisition in process being considered not applicab	yes: restricted yes: unrestricted	Present Use X agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum parkX private residence religious scientific transportation other:
4. Owr	er of Prop	erty (give names	and mailing addresse	s of <u>all</u> owners)
name J	ames L. Bradle	∋y		
street & number	4511 Ocean	Highway	telephone n	o . :
clty, town	Vienna	state	and zip codeMD 21	613
5. Loca	ation of Le	gal Descripti		
courthouse, regi	istry of deeds, etc.	Dorchester Count	y Courthouse	liberPLC-297
street & number	High	Street		folio 203
city, town	Cambridge		state	MD
6. Rep	resentatio	n in Existing	Historical Surv	
title				
d a te			federal stat	e county loca
pository for su	rvey records			
city, town				
	······································	<u> </u>	state	

7.	Desc	crip	tion
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Survey No.D-97 UPDATE

Condition —— excellent —— deteriorated —— ruins —— fair —— unexposed	Check one unalteredX altered	Check one X original site moved date of move
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Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

<u>8. S</u>	ignificance	Survey No. D-9	7 UPDATE
Period 1400 1500 1600 1700 _X 1800 _X 1900	-1499 archeology-historic conservation -1599X agriculture economics -1699X architecture education -1799 art engineering -1899 commerce exploration/settleme	landscape architecture law literature military music	religion cumus science cumus sculpture cumus social/ cumus humanitarian cumus theater cumus transportation cumus other (specify)
Specific	dates Builder/Architect		
check:	Applicable Criteria:AB x_CD and/or Applicable Exception:ABCD	EFG	
	Level of Significance:nationalstate	<u>x</u> local	
Prepare support	both a summary paragraph of significance and	a general statement o	f history and

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. D-97 UPDATE

Dorchester News, August 2, 1967, "The Old Mill at Salem, It Happened in Dorchester, pp.71-74.

MHT Form (1972), Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant.
Stiverson 1977; Land 1974; Jones 1966

10. Geo	graphic	al Data		
Acreage of nomina Quadrangle name UTM References	_East New	Market		Quadrangle scale 1:24000
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C L L L L G L L L L L L L L L L L L L L			D L L F L L	
Verbal boundary Tax Map	description and			
List all states a	nd counties for	properties over	lapping state or	county boundaries
state		code	county	code
state		code	county	code
11. For	n Prepa	red By		
name/title Laur	en Archibal	d and Betty	z C. Zebooke	er
organization	MAAR Assoc	iates, Inc		date March 1994
street & number	P.O. Box 6	555		telephone (302) 368-5777
city or town	Newark	<u> </u>		state DE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

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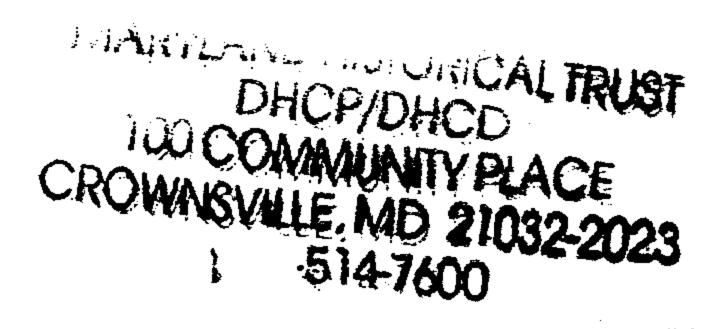
Maryland Historical Trust

Shaw House

21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 269-2438



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Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Laurel Hill was recorded as Big Mill Farm by the Maryland Historical Trust in 1972. Laurel Hill house is similar to at least two other houses in the vicinity, and has the same floor plan as the Stitely house northwest of Linkwood. Laurel Hill is a two-part house, composed of a two-story, three-bay part and a two-bay, one-and-one-half story section. The Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) site form indicates that the entrance is in the center of the five bays and that the house has two rooms separated by a central stair hall. This may be true when viewing the two sections of the house as a composite totalling five-bays. However, the main door is actually situated to the side of the two-story section of the house, suggesting a side hall plan. The 1972 site form indicates that both the two-story and the one-and-one-half story sections appear to have been constructed at the same time.

The entrance on the two-story part of the house has a single-panel door. Sidelights and transom over the principal door were recorded in the 1972 site form, although neither of these could be detected in the photograph for that site form. It is possible that these features were masked over by the asbestos siding on the house at the time. In any case, the present door is a modern one which lacks sidelights and transom, and since the height of the new door is no longer flush with the windows, this changes the rhythm of the bays on the main facade. A second important alteration has apparently taken place on the smaller section of the house. The photograph in the 1972 survey form shows a door, possibly with transom, to the west of the window on the smaller portion of the house. That window appears to be the original, but the door has been removed and replaced by a second 6/6 sash window. Also on the small section of the house, the photograph on the 1972 survey form shows a window to the side (north) of the exterior chimney. This is no longer visible, since a shed-roofed wing has been added on the east one-story section of the house. The cornice returns shown on the dormer roof have been removed. The small window on the eastern gable-end of the second story attic is no longer visible and has been covered over by siding.

Windows throughout the house are the six-over-six sash type. A full brick foundation supports the frame structure. There is an exterior chimney on the west side, and the previous exterior chimney on the east side is now an interior chimney, since a wing was added there. The house no longer has asbestos siding and has been recently covered with narrow overlapping siding. Siding on the shed-roof addition is wider.

The Maryland Historical Trust survey form of 1972 contains the following information about the inside of the house:

The stair appears to be a pattern-book stair, typical of the 1850s. A small enclosed stair to the dormered room over the dining room is located in the southeast corner. The hall and parlor have a simple Greek Revival motif above the doors and windows.

D-97: Laurel Hill, Dorchester County, Maryland

7. Description continued

Outbuildings

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There is a group of outbuildings situated to the northeast of Laurel Hill which relates principally to grain production. These include a modern, corrugated metal, gable-roof shed, a front-gable frame structure with an open, four-bay equipment shed with sloping shed roof on the west side and one bay wing on the east side, a group of five silos, and two open sheds for storage of farm vehicles and granary equipment. A low-lying, deteriorating structure to the northeast of this cluster could not be accessed due to heavy overgrowth.

Behind the outbuildings and several hundred feet to the northeast of the farmhouse is a small pre-fabricated house.

8. §	Significance	Survey No. D-97 UPDATE
Period —— preh —— 1400 —— 1500 —— 1700 —— 1700 —— 1900	2-1499 archeology-historic 2-1599X agriculture 2-1699X architecture 2-1799 art 2-1899 commerce 3-1899 communications	•
Specific	dates Bu	ler/Architect
check:	Applicable Criteria:A and/or Applicable Exception:A	
	Level of Significance:nat	onal <u>x</u> local
Prepare	both a summary paragraph of s	onificance and a deperal statement of history

support.

Laurel Hill Farm was the fourth tract of land which was surveyed in the division of Silas Fleming's estate among his heirs in 1856. At this time, it was called "Laural Hill" and described as a farm with fixtures and small dwelling containing 383 acres. Laural Hill was considered as an independent farmstead unrelated to the nearby mill tracts called Big Mills (Tract 5 of Fleming's estate) and Little Brick Mills (Tract 6 of Fleming's estate). Architectural evidence suggests that at least part of the house was erected in the mid-nineteenth century and is probably the small dwelling included in the description of Laurel Hill in the division of Silas Fleming's estate.

Laurel Hill is a relatively typical mid-nineteenth century house form for Dorchester County and the Eastern Shore area. On the exterior, the scale and plan of the house appears to be similar to the W. E. Stitely House, recorded as D-97 in East New Market, and D-240, located near Cambridge. Laurel Hill, which has been altered, is an example of a mid-nineteenth century vernacular house which made use of mail-order parts. Under Criteria A, B and C, it is unlikely that the property would be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. It was not evaluated against Criterion D.

Since the mid-seventeenth century, the economy of the entire Eastern Shore has been based primarily on agriculture. Initially, the economy was based on the cultivation of a single cash crop, tobacco, which was not only the principal commodity of the region but also served as legal tender. The cultivation of tobacco was labor-intensive and highly specialized, requiring extensive hand cultivation. To accommodate tobacco cultivation, early plantations required housing for a large work force consisting primarily of slaves, as well as specialized buildings for the drying and storage of tobacco and wharfs and landings for its shipment abroad (Land 1974; Stiverson 1977).

During the eighteenth century, Eastern Shore planters began substituting the cultivation of tobacco with the cultivation of wheat. Wheat as a cash crop had two major advantages over tobacco. First, the cultivation of wheat was not labor-intensive and required a large work force for only a brief period of time during harvest; second, wheat was easier and cheaper to process for

D-97: Laurel Hill, Dorchester County, Maryland

8. Significance continued

market (Stiverson 1977). During the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, the Eastern Shore of Maryland was one of the principal commercial grain-producing regions of the United States. Wheat cultivation required different specialized buildings such as granaries and mills, as well as barns and stables for the mules, horses or oxen which played an important role in commercial grain farming.

By 1860, Maryland's Eastern Shore was no longer an important grain-producing region, and agriculture became more diversified. Some farms continued to cultivate wheat and corn as feed crops in conjunction with dairy farming, while other farms switched to the commercial cultivation of vegetables, poultry, and fruit. During this period, unsuccessful attempts were also made to cultivate rice, flax and cotton (Jones 1966; Stiverson 1977). As the scientific breeding and feeding of animals to enhance their commercial value was introduced, livestock and poultry were no longer permitted to range freely. The adoption of these scientific advances in agricultural technology often required the construction of new kinds of highly specialized agricultural buildings such as large dairy barns, silos, and commercial chicken houses, while scientific advances in the technology of preserving and shipping farm produce resulted in the construction of structures such as packing houses, slaughter houses, and canneries.

During the late nineteenth century, farm machinery of various kinds was introduced. The mechanization of various agricultural tasks such as plowing, sowing, reaping, and milking required either the enlargement of existing farm buildings such as barns and stables or the construction of new buildings to accommodate the farm machinery. At the same time, traditional accommodations for teams of horses, mules, and oxen, as well as tack rooms and cart houses became obsolete. Conversion to exterior power sources and the introduction of modern communications introduced utility poles and wires as an element of the rural landscape.

D-97 - Chain of Title (Laurel Hill Farm)

25 January 1856
Land Commissioners Records FJH-1-80
Division of the Estate of Silas Flemming, died intestate
Estate partitioned into six parcels by Land Commissioners.

Tract # 4, Farm w/ fixtures and small dwelling cont. 383 acres evaluated at \$12.00 per acre. "Laurel Hill" N side of the County Road nr/ the mill dam opposite Big Mills.

Sold at public sale 18 September 1867 as a small dwelling house, store house and granery sold to Francis Lecompte.

12 June 1868
FJH-7-333
Francis Lecompte
to
James Gore

"Laural Hill", tract #4 on plot of Silas Fleming's estate.

n.d.

(Recited JFD-24-452)

Land on road from Salem to Vienna which was devised unto Emma E. Stappleford by the LW&T of her father James Gore.

14 September 1929

JFD-24-452

Willard C. Hurley., Trustee

to

James E, Barnes, Washington D.C.

Land on the State Road from Salem to Vienna, the same devised unto Emma E. Stapleford by her father known as "Laural Hill."

28 December 1946

RSM-60-630

James E. Barns

to

Creston E. Jackson

Tract of land called "Laurel Hill".

28 June 1947

RSM-63-37

Creston E. Jackson and Helen, his wife

to

James L. Bradley

Tract of land on the N side of the State road from Cambridge to Vienna and the E side of the Chicamacomico River cont. 366 acres excepting timber sold to James R. Friel.

12 November 1993

PLC-297-203

James L. Bradley and Juanite P. Bradley

to

Themselves

All that tract of land on the N. side of the Cambridge to Vienna State road and the E side of the Chicamacomico River cont. 366 acres.

D-97: Laurel Hill, Dorchester County, Maryland

9. Major Bibliographical References continued

Jones, Elias

New Revised History of Dorchester County, Maryland. Tidewater Publishers. Cambridge, Maryland.

Land, Aubrey C.

Provincial Maryland. In <u>Maryland: A History 1632 - 1974.</u> Richard Warsh and William L Fox (eds). Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore Maryland,

Stiverson, Gregory A.

Poverty in a Land of Plenty: Tenancy in Eighteenth Century

Maryland. The Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, Maryland.

Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data

D-97 - Laurel Hill

Geographic Organization: Eastern Shore

Chronological/Development Period: Agricultural/Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870

Historic Period Theme: Agriculture and Architecture

Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Agriculture-Subsistence/Agricultural Outbuilding

Domestic/Single Dwelling

Known Design Source: None

D-97 1000975404

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM for the NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

^	Big Mill Farm		. <u> </u>	 	······································	
2. 1.0	OCATION					
5	TREET AND NUMBER:					
_	Route 50, .7 m	ile S.E. o	f Forest F	Road		
C	ITY OR TOWN:					
_	<u>Salem</u>	— - <u>-</u> - , <u>- , - , - , - , - , - , - , - , - </u>				
*	TATE			OUNTY:		
	<u> Maryland</u>			Dorche	ester	
3. CL	LASSIFICATION					
	CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIB TO THE PU
	District X Building	☐ Public	Public Acquisition	n:	Occupied	Yes:
		T Private	☐ In Proce			Restricte
	_ Object	☐ Bath	☐ Being Co		☐ Unoccupied	
					Preservation work	IX No
PI	RESENT USE (Check One or M	Ore se Annuarieta)				
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		litary	Privote Residenc	:• <u> </u>	Other (Specify)	
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	☐ Entertainment ☐ M	Sélim -				
4. O#	Entertainment		Scientific			
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4. O#	NER OF PROPERTY WHER'S HAME: James L. Bradle					
4. O#	NER OF PROPERTY WHER'S HAME: James L. Bradle TREET AND HUMBER: TY OR TOWN:			STATE:		
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	DESCRIPTION								
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CONDITIO	CONDITION	(Check One)				(Check One)			
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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Big Mill Farm house is similar to two other houses in the vicinity, and has the same floor plan as the Stitely house northwest of Linkwood. It is a two-part house, composed of a two story, three-bay part and a two-bay, one and one half story part. Both sections appear to have been constructed at the same time. The entrance is in the center of the five-bays and has sidelights and transom. All sash are six over six. A full brick foundation supports the frame structure, and there are exterior chimneys.

The floor plan is the common type with two rooms separated by a central stair hall. The stair appears to be a "catalogue" stair, typical of the 1850's. A small enclosed stair to the dormered room over the dining room is located in the south east corner. Only the hall and parlor have a simple Greek Revival motif above the doors and windows.

FICANCE			
RIOD (Check One ar More es	Appropriete)		
Pre-Calumbian	☐ 16th Century	☐ 18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	□ 19th Century	
PECIFIC DATE(S) (Il Applice)	ble end Known)		
REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More es Appropri	ate)	
Abar iginal	□ Education	☐ Palitical	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
Historic	M Industry	lesophy	
Agriculture	Invention	Science	
Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	
☐ Aft	Architecture	Sacial/Human-	
Commerce	Literature	itarian	
Communications	☐ Military	Theater '	•
Conservation	☐ Music	Transportation	

BIG MILL (3)

Big Mill on Big Mill Pond was on the north side of the present U.S. 50 on the Chicamacomico River. The mill has been dated as early as 1750 and is also known as Flemming Mill. The Big Mills post office was established 1831. The atlas lists E. T. Flemming, showing the mill on the south side of the narrow road of that time.

The mill was built of granite with pegged woodwork and the stone has been identified as ballast from ships that on once docked at Vienna. The mill produced hominy and meal; also dark flour good for hit cakes but not good for rising. Silas Flemming operated the mill and tavern in the mid-19th century; he had a negro miller named Moses. It was related that Flemming instructed Moses to take out double tolls on a customer with the dictum, "Well, Moses, take it again. If he's poor, keep him poor. If he's rich, he's able to stand it." Flemming died in 1855 and the mill later passed to Alexander H. Hurley. There was also a sawmill. An overshot wheel was employed.

Solomon Sherman operated the mill at another time. It closed in 1917 and was later wrecked in a storm and the materials reused. The site is now the farm of J. Leslie Bradley.

Dorchester News, August 2, 1967
"The Old Mill at Salem," It Happened In Dorchester, pp.71-74

The building is a good example of the vernacular house with the use of mail-order parts. It is like the W. E. Stitely, northwest on Rt. 50.

		BLIOGRAPH	ICAL RE	FERENCES							
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1. STATE Maryland

COUNTY Dorchester

TOWN Salem VICINITY

STREET NO. Rt 50, Mile S.E g

Forest Rd (North)

ORIGINAL OWNER

ORIGINAL USE Gwelling

PRESENT OWNER James Bradley

PRESENT USE Chuelling (Vaccant)

WALL CONSTRUCTION Frank

NO. OF STORIES

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY D-97

2. NAME " Big Mill Farm

DATE OR PERIOD C. 1850 STYLE Federal

ARCHITECT BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

12+2

OPEN TO PUBLIC NO

Big Mill Farm house is similar to two other houses in the vicinity, and has the same floor plan as the Stitely house northwest of Linkwood. It is a 2-part house, composed of a two story, three bay part and a two bay, one and one half story part. Both sections appears to have been constructed at the same time. The entrance is in the center of the five bays and has sidelights and transom. All sash are six over six. A full brick foundation supports the frame structure, and there are exterior chimneys.

The floor plan is the common type with two rooms with central stair hall. The stair appears to be a "catalogue" stair, so typical of the 1850's. A small enclosed stair to the dormered room over the dining room is located in the south east corner. Only the hall and parlor have a simple Greek Revival motif above the doors and windows.

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered NO Interior Exterior

6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

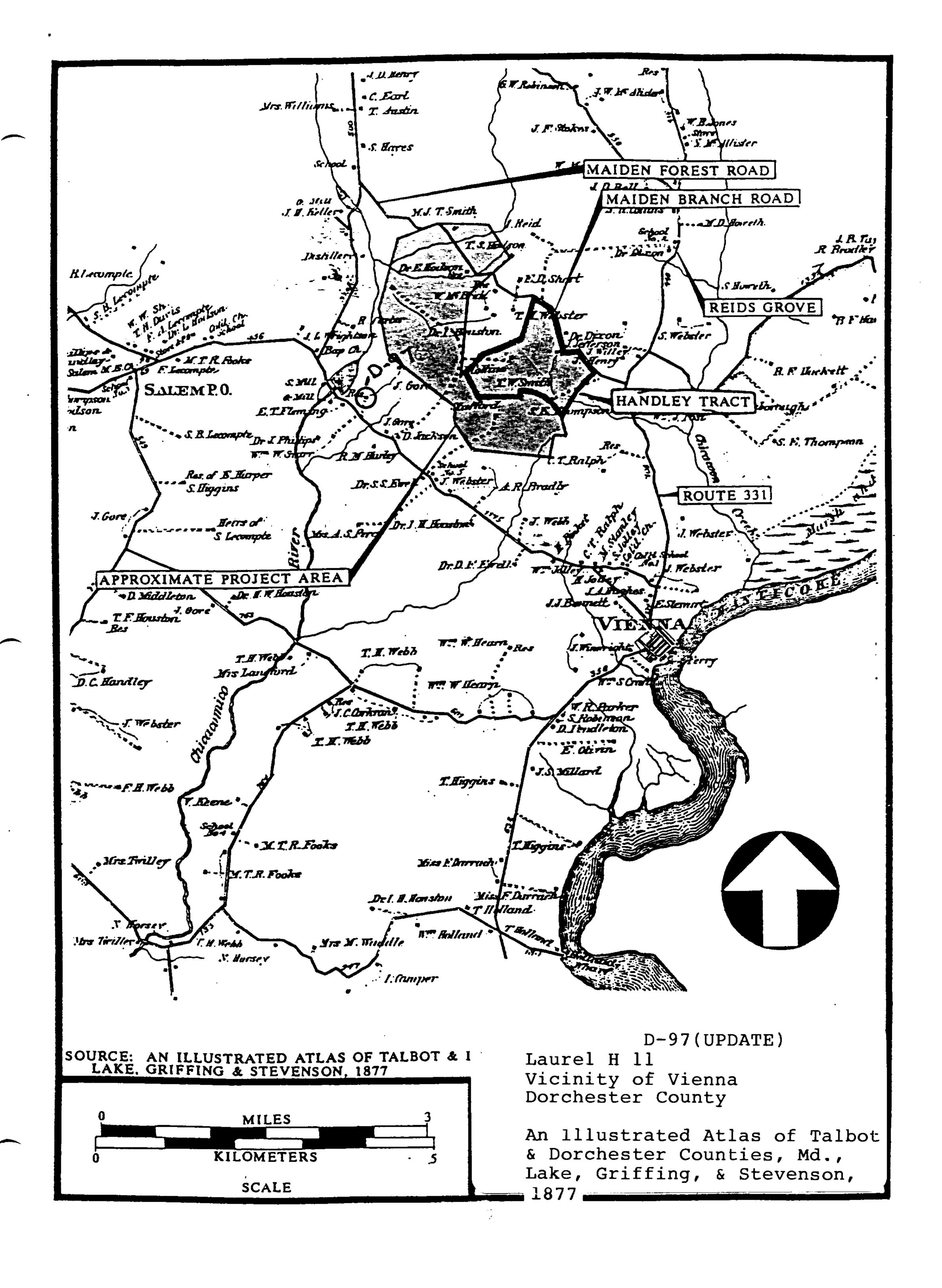
3. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)
INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

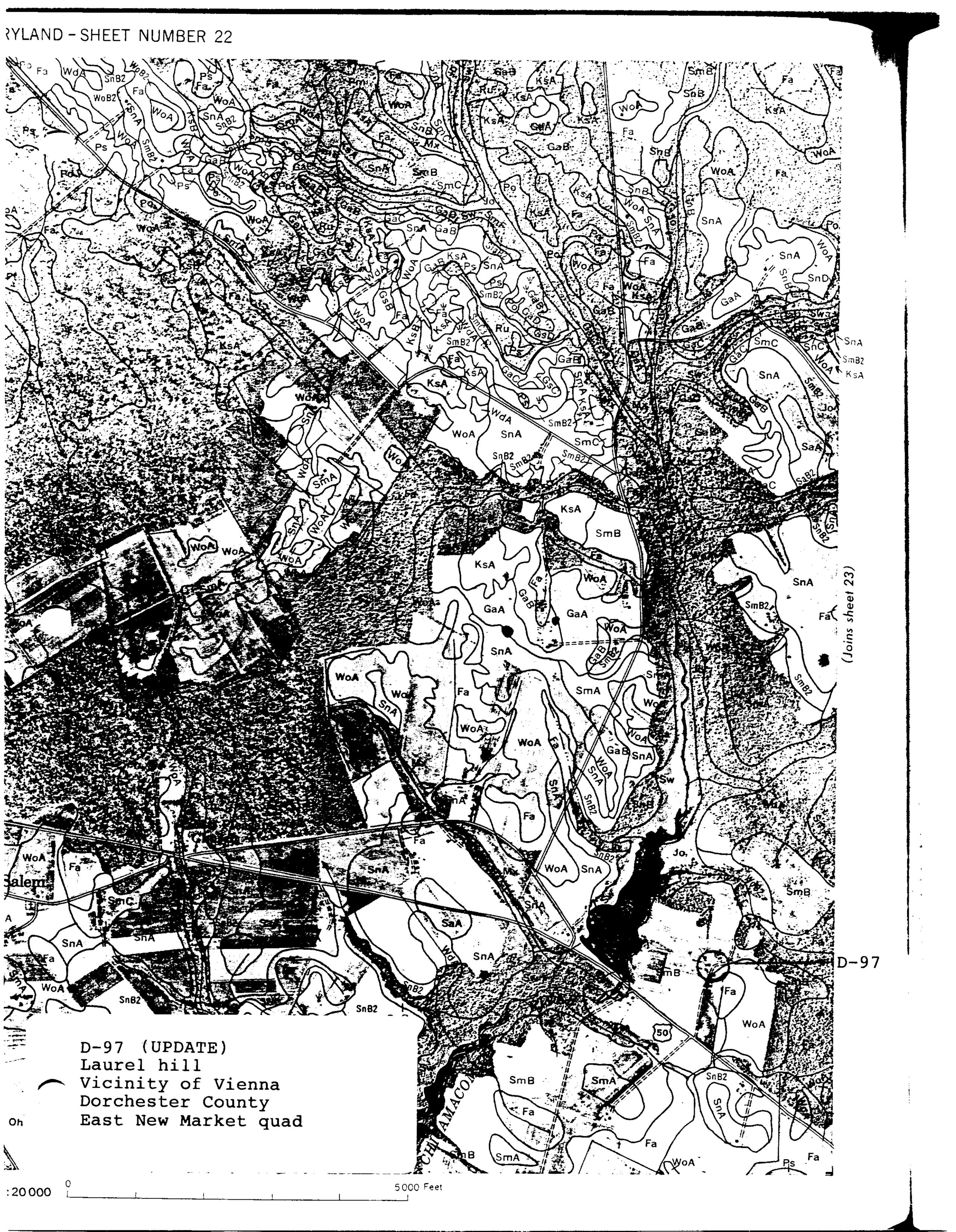
7. PHOTOGRAPH

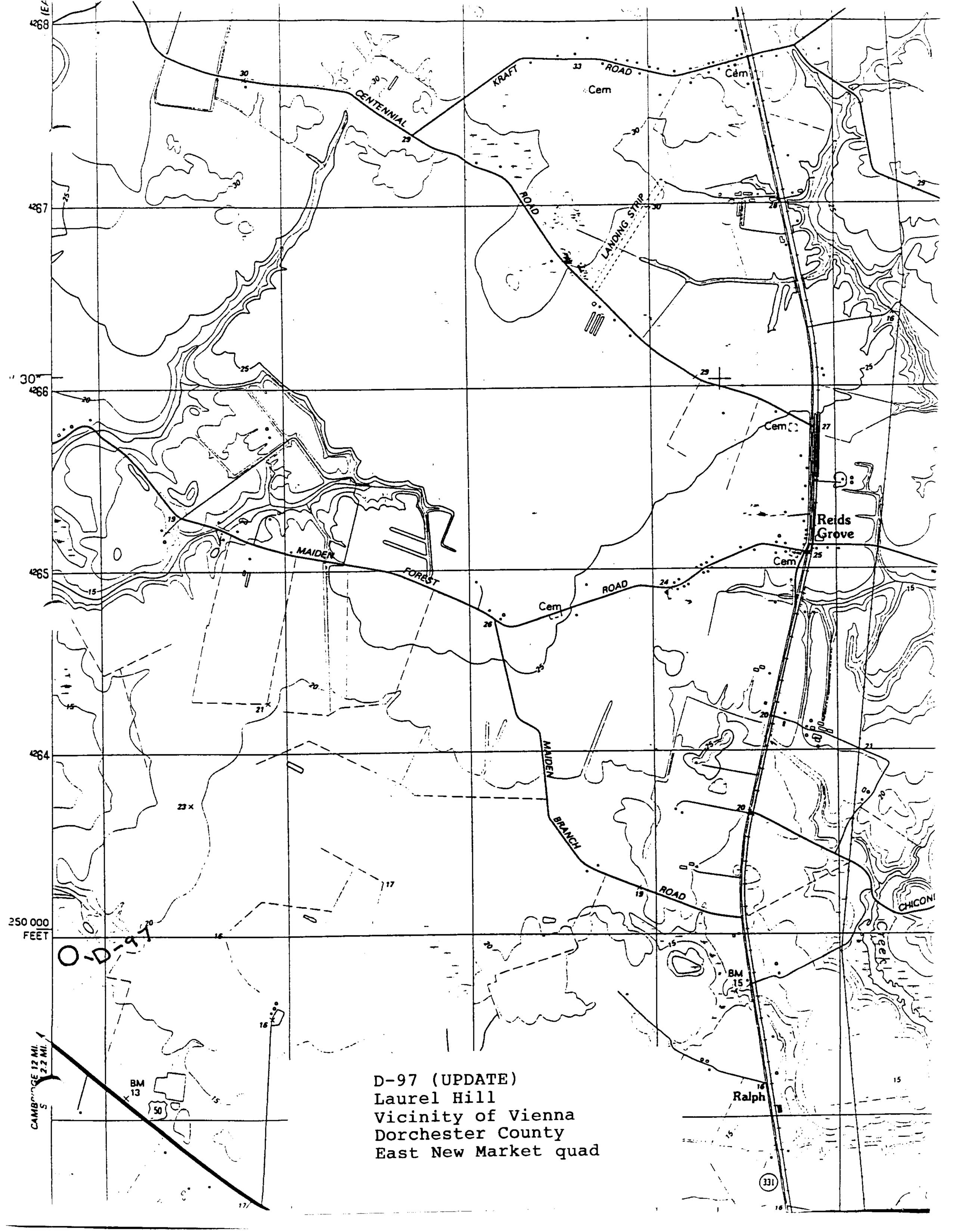
9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER WHS
Michael O. Bourne, Field Surveyor
Maryland Historical Trust
2525 Riva Road
Annapolis, Md. 21401

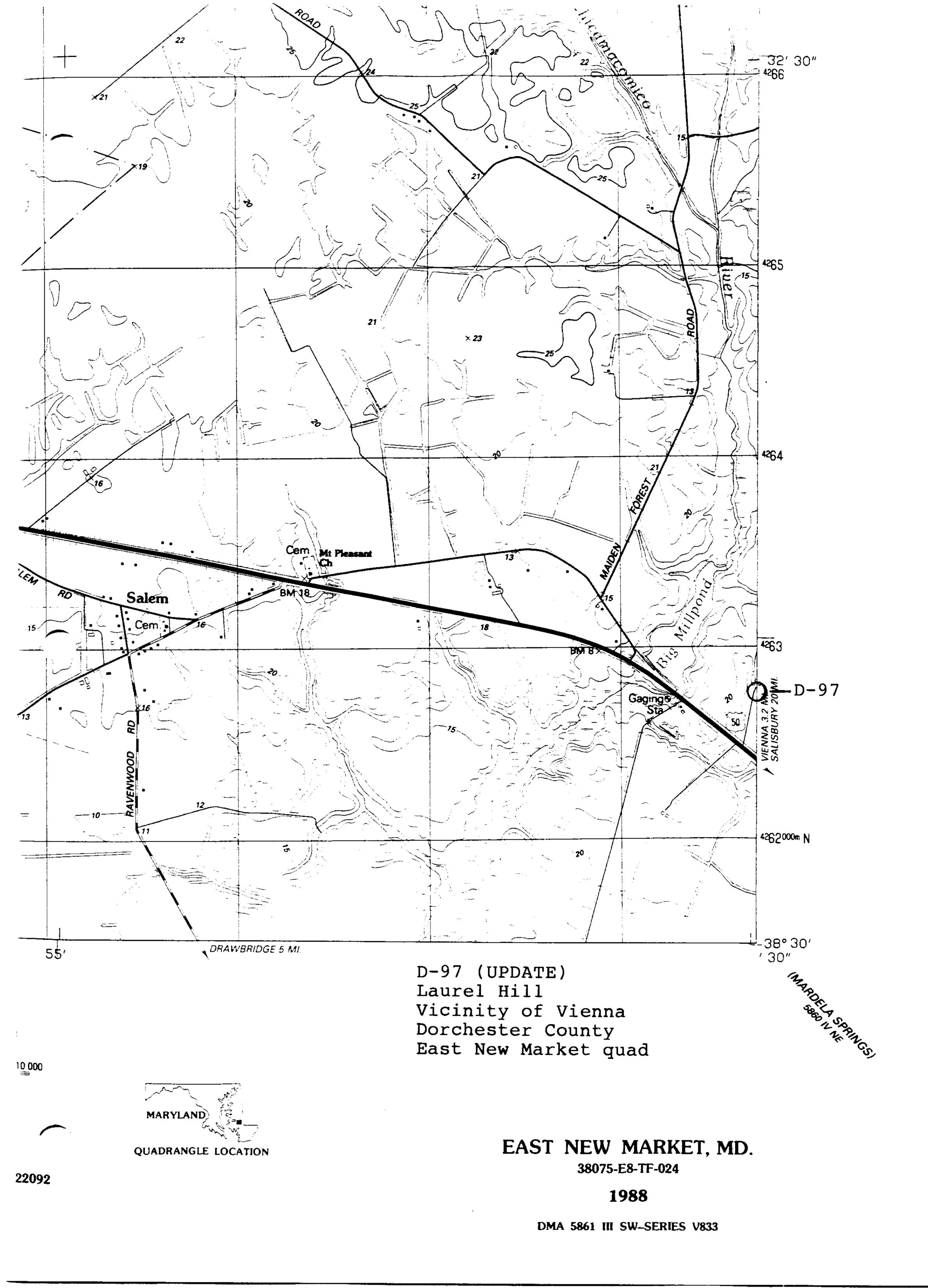
DATE OF RECORD

11/30/72









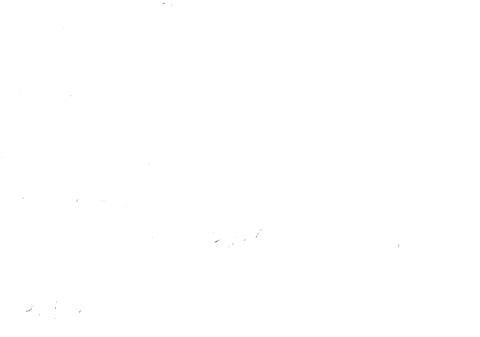














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